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With the decay of this organization in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, began the rapid growth of individualism, a tendency which was, so to speak, checked half way, and restrained for another century and a half by the strong state policy of Elizabeth and her successors. Then in the latter part of last century, with the introduction of the factory system and other new elements, began a new growth of individualism, reinforced now by the teachings of a powerful economic and political school, a movement which only in recent decades seems to be meeting a distinct reaction. Some such thread as this, to be found in the relation of economic phenomena themselves, will alone prove to be permanently satisfactory in tracing the development of English economic history. But after all, this is only a minor criticism to make of such a work. We do not understand that the author feels that the last word has been spoken on any part of his subject, and the continuity, the learning, the good judgment, and the fair-mindedness of the book will make it more and more necessary to readers and later writers as a basis and a model for their own work.

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E. P. CHEYNEY.

History of Federal Government in Greece and Italy. By EDWARD A. FREEMAN. Edited by J. B. BURY. Second edition. Pp. xlviii, 692. London: Macmillan & Co., 1893.

The first and only volume of Freeman's "History of Federal Government" has long since established a permanent place for itself, so that an extended review, one commensurate with the priceless value of the work, need not be given to the present reprint, which includes, however, an additional chapter on Federalism in Italy and a fragment on Germany. The editor has made no change in the text, except to correct obvious errors; a revision of the references to authorities and an appendix of twenty pages are his main contributions. This single volume is complete in itself; the first two chapters are a masterful discussion of the general principles of Federalism, while the body of the work will probably always remain the standard history of the Greek confederations; in some matters of detail Freeman's conclusions have already been somewhat modified, and they will doubtless be still further affected in the future; but there is less likelihood that the work as a whole will suffer materially. Like Gibbon's "Roman Empire," Freeman's "Federal Government in Greece" seems assured an exceptionally permanent value. That Freeman was not a political prophet is evident; that he could not, in the preparation of his first two chapters, have had the example of a Federal monarchy, Germany, to add to the completeness of his survey,

is unfortunate. What is ever to be lamented is that he did not live to write the second portion of the work, for which, as for the first, he was so peculiarly qualified, the history of six hundred years of Swiss confederation.

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La Beneficenza Romana dagli antichi tempi fino ad oggi: Studio storico critico dell' avvocato QUIRINO QUERINI. Opera insignita del primo premio nel concorso speciale all' Esposizione di Palermo. Pp. 500 with tables. Roma. 1892.

This work will prove to be of no little interest and value to foreign students interested in the general subject of public charity in Rome, for it contains the results of long and patient historical investigation of countless documents which the foreign student will not find easily accessible. The author has long occupied himself with historical studies in this field and has made several other contributions to its literature. His most recent work is, however, his best. It deals solely with Roman charities and is historical and critical and takes little direct part in the controversy that is waged in Italy around the Reform Law of 1890, regulating the public charities of the whole kingdom. Nor does the great question respecting the relation of the Catholic church to the public charities come in for as much treatment as we should like to see. Perhaps the author prefers to let the facts of the past speak for themselves to him who will interpret them. We believe, however, that the author's Catholic instincts and sympathies have led him to take for granted, or even to justify, a condition of affairs that is the outcome of the past, but which to one not accustomed to that mode of thinking is suggestive of grave problems which the present Italian government must solve in a radical and decided manner if it does not wish to give over all forms of charity into private hands.

Querini's work in the introductory part or "*parte generale*," discusses the forms of charity among primitive peoples and such questions as the origin of misery, and then makes a detailed examination of the laws, and the motives underlying them, that existed for the relief of poverty among the ancient Egyptians, the Israelites, Hindoos, Chinese, Persians and Greeks.

The first part of the book proper then commences with a discussion of charity among the ancient Romans. Here Querini finds that poverty increased rapidly in proportion as manual labor was held to be dishonorable, as agricultural pursuits declined and standing armies increased. He treats with much breadth of view and accurate